

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-A the claims in the application remain claims 1-12, of which claim 1 is independent.

The specification, drawings and abstract have been amended in compliance with the Examiner's comments at item 2 of the Office Action.

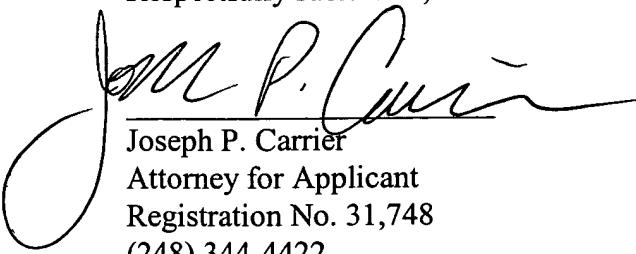
Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application. Applicant also respectfully submits that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter into the application.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-2 at item 4 of the Office Action.

In view of the Examiner's comments at items 3-5 of the Office Action, the application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

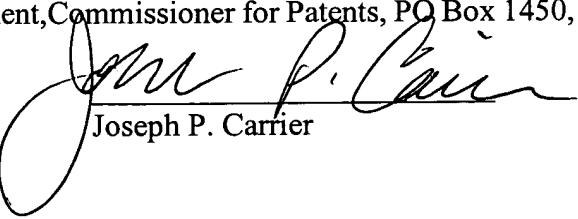
Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 3, 2005.


Joseph P. Carrier

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend FIGS. 16A, 16B as shown on the attached sheets (Replacement and Annotated sheets).

FIGS. 16A, 16B are amended to include the label “Prior Art”.